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# Legislative Interviews

Climate Change & Water

Santa Clara Sustainability Plan

### March Events

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- President's Letter Black History Month
- Upcoming League Events
- Observer Reports Program Planning Outcomes Related Articles Board Bytes Racial Justice Committee Nominating Committee Political Book Club
- **March Events** Monthly Board Meeting Wednesday, March 3, at 10:00 AM

## 100th League Anniversary

Political Book Club

Bay Area League Day 2021

Digital Literacy: Internet Basics

<u>Digital Literacy: Computer Basics</u>

**President's Letter** Dear League Members, donation from Supervisor Joe Simitian. The SCC Board of Supervisors voted to increase the monthly vehicle/allowance stipend for supervisors back to the 2000 level. Even though

Monday, March 22, 3:00 PM Sunday, April 25, 2021, at 2:00 PM Recently, our League received a generous and unexpected, but greatly appreciated, \$200

Saturday, March 6, at 9:30 AM

Monday, March 8, at 3:00 PM

Tuesday, March 9, at 7:00 PM

Supervisor Simitian voted for the proposal, he decided that he did not wish to keep the additional amount but would rather donate it to a non profit organization doing exceptional community work. And, our League of Women Voters

was chosen as the recipient!! Thank you again, Supervisor Simitian. It's so nice to be recognized and appreciated for ones work!! And, unbeknownst to Supervisor Simitian, he became the first donor to our 2021 Annual Finance **Drive** – see the following paragraph for more details and learn how you can contribute, too! Each year, our League launches our Annual Finance Drive as our one and only fundraiser. We have found this effort

to be as successful, if not better, than some of the fundraisers that were planned in the past. We are hoping that all members and friends of the League will support our work and donate. In the next few days, you will be receiving a special email notice about this Fundraiser. Please read it over carefully and donate however much you can. We appreciate everyone's support. Next, I wish to highlight two important upcoming programs. **First**, the League of Women Voters Bay Area is hosting its Annual Meeting, virtually, on Saturday, March 6. The theme for the day is Equity in Action - a topic all levels of the League are very focused on promoting through its Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiative. Read more

details below under Upcoming League Events and remember that you must register to attend this virtual meeting. Secondly, in a recent member survey, much interest was expressed in learning more about Digital Literacy. I am proud to announce that two of our members, Amy Vu and Rebecca Schwan, have agreed to lead this effort. The first two zoom sessions have been planned for March 8 and March 22 from 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Additional details can be found under **Upcoming League Events.** Hopefully, many of you will register and take advantage of these two great classes.

Eleanor Yick, President **Upcoming League Events** Sign up today!

Have you been concerned about how to determine if your local community is

What is the internet? Learn about the global network of interconnected servers, routers, and other hardware that

software needed for connectivity. We will talk about routers, modems, wireless adapters, web browsers, and how to

keep us connected to the world around us. This Internet Basics workshop will teach you about the hardware and

Date: Sunday, September 12, 2021, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (postponed from Spring 2020)

You are invited to join members and friends from all of the Leagues of Women Voters

**American Experience: Black History Month** 

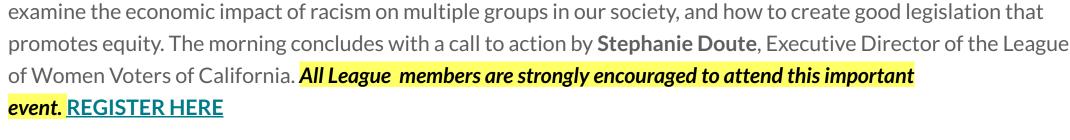
doing all it should to implement equity? How we can create a more equitable economy? The

Bay Area League's annual educational day for 2021 focuses on tools and measurements that implement equity and further our goals for a just and inclusive society. "Equity in Action" begins with a keynote address by Fred Blackwell, CEO of the San

Date: Saturday, March 6, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM Via Zoom

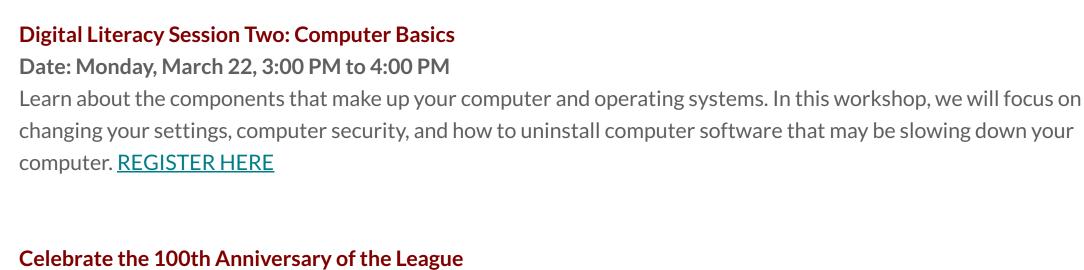
Bay Area League Day 2021 "Equity in Action"

Francisco Foundation, one of the largest community foundations in the country. Speakers and panels will look at the League's past, typical of the times, and will illustrate how we define, measure and implement equity. Speakers will



**Digital Literacy Session One: Internet Basics** 

Date: Monday, March 8, 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM



Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors Chambers

70 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110

Beverages and snacks will be served.

HERE.

increase your internet speed at home. REGISTER HERE

of Santa Clara County in a festive celebration of the League's 100th Anniversary. The evening will also celebrate the San Jose/Santa Clara's League's 75th Anniversary. Supervisor Cindy Chavez will host this informative event which will include guest speakers who will be sharing the important work the County Leagues have accomplished over the years.

COVID-19 has really affected this event! As we want this to be an in-person grand celebration, we have now

postponed it until 2021 with great hopes. Please note that this is a NEW date for this celebration event! REGISTER

films. Check them out here. AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

Our Program Planning Meeting in January was well attended and very productive. Members in attendance voted and identified the following

**DEMOCRACY WORK** 

Commemorate the experiences and contributions of African Americans with these award-winning and notable

as the three top issues LWVC should focus on in 2021-2022, in addition to the campaign on *Making Democracy Work*:

1. Climate Change

Voter Service:

3. Housing & Homelessness

2. Healthcare

**Program Planning Outcomes** 

#### Members also identified goals our League will continue to focus on throughout 2021 and 2022. In addition to supporting both LWVUS and LWVC's Making Democracy Work, members prioritized the following:

 Voting Rights: Voters Choice Act Candidate Forums and Pros/Cons - refine online experience and continue translation into Chinese and other languages, if needed. Adult and Student Registrations Programs (cont)

 Provide a series of Digital Literacy sessions Form a Racial Justice Committee Develop Civic Education series

Civic Education/Outreach/Advocacy

Climate Change and Water

Healthcare

Justice Committee.

Local Election Finance Study III

These will be voted upon by the full membership at our Annual Meeting to be held in June. Also, two new focus areas emerged and organizing work has started on; a Civics Education Series for New Immigrants and a Racial

Barbara Lea proposed the creation of a new committee on Racial Justice. If interested in

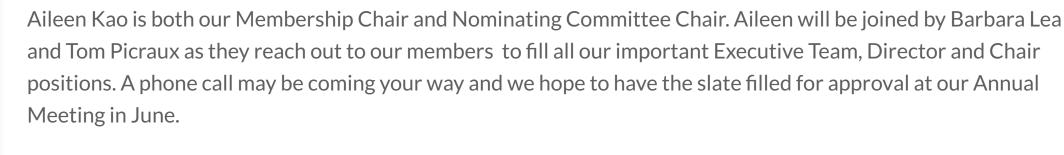
learning more about this committee and possibly joining it, please contact Barbara Lea

**Racial Justice Committee** 

**Nominating Committee** 

**Legislative Interviews** 

at barbara.lea@comcast.net.



and Tom Picraux as they reach out to our members to fill all our important Executive Team, Director and Chair positions. A phone call may be coming your way and we hope to have the slate filled for approval at our Annual

Each year, local Leagues interview their state senators and assemblypersons. Our two

representatives are: Senator Dave Cortese (District 15) and Assemblyperson Evan Low (Assembly

#### District 28). The purpose of these interviews is to develop/reinforce a working relationship with our local legislators, hear what their legislative priorities are and make them aware of the League's legislative priorities. This year, our League was well represented on interview teams by: Qing Bai, Sophia Kao, Barbara Lea, Victoria Zhang, and Eleanor Yick. Interview write ups will be posted next month on our League's website.



task-force.

Meg Giberson, Natural Resources

Climate change and unsustainable water use represent an existential crisis for California, the nation and the world. Climate change is bringing more unpredictable weather, like the deep freeze in Texas. The threat of

continuing drought and a nearly year-round fire season are the new normal in California and the West. However,

The League of Women Voters has formed a national task force to address climate change through information and

including: building electrification, food, soils, carbon sequestration, agriculture, transportation, GHG (greenhouse

gas) reduction, wildfires, green infrastructure, and sea level rise. To join the Task Force or to express interest in a

state-wide team, e-mail <a href="mailto:climatechange@lwvc.org">climatechange@lwvc.org</a>. For general information, see <a href="https://lwvc.org/climate-change">https://lwvc.org/climate-change</a>

action. In turn, the Task Force is forming state-wide teams on a number of topics related to climate change

knowledge can lead to best practices in all sectors to help avoid the worst outcomes.

Santa Clara County's Long-Awaited Sustainability Plan Prioritizes **Economy, Environment, & Equity** Santa Clara County is doubling down on <u>addressing climate change as</u>

an emergency, rather than a far-off threat.

At its last meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved the county's

master plan for sustainability, which has been about five years in the

The one thing you've

got going: your one

making. The plan commits to lowering greenhouse gas emissions, electrifying more buildings and planting 3,000 trees within the next three years to improve air quality and increase local carbon sequestration. "Climate change, unlike the pandemic, unfolds in slow motion," said Jasneet W. Sharma, director of the county's Office of Sustainability. "Often it feels that individual actions don't matter. So it's all the more essential for action at both the policy and the individual scale." The plan builds on many changes the county has already made and weaves them into one, cohesive picture. For

example, in 2018, the county committed to reaching net carbon neutrality by 2045. Carbon neutrality means

Sharma told San José Spotlight that the COVID-19 pandemic was sort of a "dress rehearsal" for the climate

challenges that lie ahead. And indeed, changes that have occurred because of the pandemic have informed the

county's commitments. <a href="https://sanjosespotlight.com/santa-clara-countys-long-awaited-sustainability-plan-">https://sanjosespotlight.com/santa-clara-countys-long-awaited-sustainability-plan-</a>

carbon emissions are balanced with removal of carbon from the atmosphere.

prioritizes-economy-environment-and-equity/

**Campbell City Council** February 2021 - The Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) will be going up 319% when the next 8 year cycle begins. The last cycle is from 2015 to 2023. Once a local government has received its final RHNA from ABAG (Association of Bay Area Governments), it must revise the Housing Element of its general plan and update zoning ordinances to accommodate its portion of the region's housing need. Communities are required to report their progress to HCD (Housing and Community Development) annually. The greatest need is in Very Low (25.9%), Low (14.9%) and Moderate (16.5%). Above Moderate is 42.6%. Jackie Constanza

#### **LWVUS ALERTS** Shirley Chisholm: My Personal League Hero In light of our organization's 101st birthday this month, I've been reflecting on the work of some prominent members in our history. As

**Related Articles** 

**Observer Reports** 

THE BAY AREA MONITOR Monitor Weekly Notes: Redistricting Prep, Housing Talk, Climate Plans, Vaccine Rides, and Fire Prevention **LWVC ALERTS** 

Women Voters hero.... Read More

My love letter to the League... Celebrating the League's 101st birthday with love... Read More **SIERRA CLUB Letter From the Texas Freeze** One writer's dispatch from the Southwest's ongoing climate disaster... Read More

1. The January Treasurer's Report was discussed and accepted.

Giberson is interested in doing a program about water in April.

2. Finance Drive will kick off soon. This year's Finance Drive will be done digitally.

LWVC, as voted and identified by the attendants, were approved by the Board.

3. Rebecca Schwan and Amy Vu volunteered to present a program on online tools session in March. Meg

4. LWVC Convention will be held online from June 7 to June 14. The date for our Annual Meeting is set for June

5. The Program Planning meeting was held online on January 30. The three top priorities to be submitted to

POLITICAL BOOK CLUB

We rely on dues and donations to support our programs. Please consider making a donation to our local League of

Women Voters general fund now. If you prefer to donate to our 501(c)3 tax-deductible account please indicate that.

Board Bytes - February 3, 2021

26.

**Donate** 

our birthday falls during Black History Month, I naturally think about

run for president, Chisholm's work and legacy are endlessly inspiring.

membership in New York City makes her my personal League of

American woman in Congress and the first African American woman to

The fact that her activism began in part with a League of Women Voters

Congresswoman and activist Shirley Chisholm. As the first African

6. The additional proposed goals for LWV SWSCV to continue to support the LWVUS and the LWVC's goals were also approved by the Board. 7. The Nomination Committee was activated. The Membership Director Aileen Kao will chair the Nomination Committee. Tom Picraux and Barbara Lea volunteered to help. 8. Qing Bai was approved by the Board to serve as the Action/DEI Director.

9. The League currently has 109 members.

10. The next Board meeting will be on March 3, 2021.

**League of Women Voters SWSCV Donation** 

The next Political Book Club Discussion is Tuesday, March 9, at 7:00 PM. If you wish to participate, please contact the host, Wade Ellis, at <a href="wade25@sbcglobal.net">wade25@sbcglobal.net</a> for the URL link to the zoom meeting.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS EXECUTIVE TEAM National** President, Eleanor Yick President Joe Biden www.whitehouse.gov Vice Pres/Program, Open Senator Dianne Feinstein Secretary, Victoria Zhang

www.feinstein.senate.gov

Senator Alex Padilla

https://alex-padilla.com

Senator Dave Cortese

Supv. Joe Simitian

Supv. Mike Wasserman

County

http://sd15.senate.ca.gov

Assemblymember Evan Low

http://asmdc.org/members/a28

supervisor.simitian@bos.sccgov.org

#### **DIRECTORS** Rep. Anna Eshoo Action/DEI, Qing Bai https://eshoo.house.gov **California** County Council Co-Chairs, Governor Gavin Newsom Tom & Danice Picraux http://gov.ca.gov

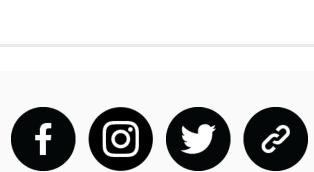
LWV SWSCV BOARD & ELECTED OFFICIALS 2020-21

Education Co-Chairs, J Reynolds-Grabbe & Anna Song

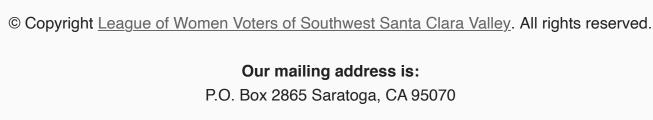
Treasurer, Helen Wang

Health Care, Barbara Lea Housing/Transp., Liang Chao IT/Public Relations, Sophia Kao Membership, Aileen Kao Natural Resources, Meg Giberson Observers, Barbara Lea Voter Editor, Rebecca Schwan Voter's Edge, Tom Picraux Voters Service, Eleanor Yick

mike.wasserman@bos.sccgov.org Supv. Susan Ellenberg supervisor.ellenberg@bos.sccgov.org







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